Message Text

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UNCLAS CAIRO 2569

ASWAN FOR SECRETARY'S PARTY

USINFO FOR IOP/M

E.O. 11652: NA/A

SUBJDECT: MEDIA REACTION--SECRETARY'S MED EAST TRIP

REF: USIA 4940

FROM MAESTRONE

1. LEAD STORIES IN TODAY'S PRESS REFLECT COMPLICATED AND DIFFICULT NATURE OF KISSINGER'S PRESENT MISSION. PRESS STATEMENTS BY KISSINGER AND SADAT FOLLOWING SECOND MEETING SATURDAY WERE WIDELY COVERED. AL AHRAM AND AL GOMHOURIYA SAY THAT SADAT RECOGNIZES THAT PRESENT TALKS ARE DIFFICULT BECAUSE THEY DEAL WITH BOTH REMOVING DANGERS OF RENEWED EXPOLSION IN AREA AND ADVANCING TOWARD PEACE. SADAT ADDED THAT, "OCTOBER WAS HAS PROVEN THAT, HOWEVER STRONG, NEITHER OF TWO PARTIES CAN DICTATE ITS TERMS ON OTHER." AL AHRAM AND AL GOMHOURIYA QUOTE KISSINGER AS SAYING THAT U.S. STRONGLY BELIEVES THAT ANOTHER STEP TOWARD PEACE "IS POSSIBLE AND WILL SERVE INTERESTS OF ALL PEOPLES OF UNCLASSIFIED

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REGION AND ENTORE WORLD."

- 2. ALL PAPERS REPORT SADAT'S STATEMENT THAT APPROVAL TO END STATE OF BELLIGERENCY WHILE ISRAEL IS STILL OCCUPYING EGYPTIAN TERRITORY IS OFFICIAL INVITATION TO OCCUPATION. "AND I WILL NOT EXTEND SUCH INVITATION." SADAT WAS ANSWERING QUESTIONS FROM PRESS ON WRITTEN EGYPTIAN PLEDGES OR GUARANTEES TO THIS EFFECT. ALL PAPERS ALSO QUOTE FONMIN FAHMY'S STATEMENT THAT "HARD WORK MUST BE DONE BEFORE REACHING NEW DISENGAGEMENT AGREEMENT" AND THAT DURING KISSINGER-SADAT MEETING, "NO DEFINITE PROPOSALS WERE SUBMITTED AND WILL NOT BE SUBMITTED UNTIL KISSINGER RETURNS FROM ISRAEL." AL AHRAM REPORTS THAT, WHILE IN ISRAEL, KISSINGER WILL ATTEMPT TO OBTAIN FINAL APPROVAL OF WITHDRAWAL FROM PASSES AND OILFIELDS AND THAT ISRAELI CABINET WILL APPROVE STEP " IN PRINCIPLE." BACK IN EGYPT, KISSINGER WILL OBTAIN GOE POSITION ON PROCEDURAL DETAILS, E.G., LENGTH OF UNEF MANDATE, TO RESULT FROM WITHDRAWAL. AL GOMHOURIYA SPECULATES KISSINGER WILL SHUTTLE THREE TIMES BETWEEN CAIRO AND TEL AVIV. PRESS ALSO COVERED KISSINGER'S INTENTION TO MEET GROMYKO IN EUROPE IN COURSE OF PRESENT MISSION.
- 3. AL AHRAM, SPEAKING EDITORIALLY ON KISSINGER'S MISSION THIS TIME, SAYS THAT IT IS NOT TURE THAT EVERYTING WAS PREPARED IN ADVANCE AND IS JUST WAITING FOR SIGNATURES.
 PAPER THEN MAINTAINS THAT ACCOMPLISHING SECOND DISENGAGEMENT IS NOT COMPLETELY IMPOSSIBLE. AL AKHBAR BLAMES ISRAEL, WHEICH "HAS NO RIGHT TO BARGAIN OVER WITHDRAWAL" FOR ANY POSSIBLE FAILURE BY KISSINGER MISSION. AL AKHBAR'S BACKPAGE COLUMNIST ANIS MANSOUR SAYS THAT SAVOY OPERATION TIMING "EMBARASSED EGYPT'S POLITICAL AND STRATEGIC EFFORTS FOR REGIONAL PEACE". EILTS

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